

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JOINT SESSION OF THE CONGRESS—STATE OF THE UNION MESSAGE

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 1) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the concurrent resolution.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 1

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the two Houses of Congress assemble in the Hall of the House of Representatives on Tuesday, January 19, 1999, at 9 p.m., for the purpose of receiving such communication as the President of the United States shall be pleased to make to them.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GRANTING MEMBERS OF HOUSE PRIVILEGE TO EXTEND REMARKS AND INCLUDE EXTRANEOUS MATERIAL IN CONGRESSIONAL RECORD FOR FIRST SESSION OF 106TH CONGRESS

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that for the first session of the 106th Congress, all Members be permitted to extend their remarks and to include extraneous material within the permitted limit in that section of the RECORD entitled "Extensions of Remarks."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER, THE MAJORITY LEADER AND THE MINORITY LEADER TO ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS AND MAKE APPOINTMENTS AUTHORIZED BY LAW OR THE HOUSE, NOTWITHSTANDING ADJOURNMENT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding any adjournment of the House until Tuesday, January 19, 1999, the Speaker, Majority Leader and Minority Leader be authorized to accept resignations and to make appointments authorized by law or by the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, your committee appointed on the part of the

House to join a like committee on the part of the Senate to notify the President of the United States that a quorum of each House has been assembled and is ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make has performed that duty.

The President asked us to report that he will be pleased to deliver his message at 9 p.m., Tuesday, January 19, to a joint session of the two Houses.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair customarily takes this occasion on the opening day of a Congress to announce his policies with respect to particular aspects of the legislative process. The Chair will insert in the RECORD announcements by the Speaker concerning, first, privileges of the floor; second, the introduction of bills and resolutions; third, unanimous consent requests for the consideration of bills and resolutions; fourth, recognition for 1-minute speeches, Morning Hour debate and Special Orders; fifth, decorum in debate; sixth, the conduct of votes by electronic device; and seventh, the distribution of written material on the House floor.

These announcements, where appropriate, will reiterate the origins of the stated policies. Citations to House Rules in those statements have been updated to conform to the recodified House Rules (citations to the former House Rules have been retained in brackets). The Speaker intends to continue in the 106th Congress the policies reflected in these statements. The policy announced in the 102d Congress with respect to jurisdictional concepts related to [clause 5(b) of rule XXI] clause 5(a) of rule XXI—tax and tariff measures—will continue to govern but need not be reiterated, as it is adequately documented as precedent in the House Rules and Manual.

The announcements referred to follow:

1. PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

The Speaker's instructions to the former Doorkeeper and the Sergeant-at-arms announced on January 25, 1983, and on January 21, 1986, regarding floor privileges of staff will apply during the 106th Congress. The Speaker's policy announced on August 1, 1996, regarding floor privileges of former Members will also apply during the 106th Congress.

Announcement by the Speaker, January 25, 1983

The SPEAKER. [Rule XXXII] Rule IV strictly limits those persons to whom the privileges of the floor during sessions of the House are extended, and that rule prohibits the Chair from entertaining requests for suspension or waiver of that rule. As reiterated as recently as August 22, 1974, by Speaker Albert under the principle stated in Deschler's Procedure, chapter 4, section 3.4, the rule strictly limits the number of committee staff permitted on the floor at one time during the consideration of measures reported from their committees. This permission does not extend to Members' personal staff except when a Member has an amendment actually pending during the five-minute rule. To this end, the Chair requests all Members and

committee staff to cooperate to assure that not more than the proper number of staff are on the floor, and then only during the actual consideration of measures reported from their committees. The Chair will again extend this admonition to all properly admitted majority and minority staff by insisting that their presence on the floor, including the areas behind the rail, be restricted to those periods during which their supervisors have specifically requested their presence. The Chair stated this policy in the 97th Congress, and an increasing number of Members have insisted on strict enforcement of the rule. The Chair has consulted with and has the concurrence of the Minority Leader with respect to this policy and has directed [the Doorkeeper] and the Sergeant-at-arms to assure proper enforcement of the rule.

Announcement by the Speaker, January 21, 1986

The SPEAKER. [Rule XXXII] Rule IV strictly limits those persons to whom the privileges of the floor during sessions of the House are extended, and that rule prohibits the Chair from entertaining requests for suspension on waiver of that rule. As reiterated by the Chair on January 25, 1983, and January 3, 1985, and as stated in chapter 4, section 3.4 of Deschler-Brown's Procedure in the House of Representatives, the rule strictly limits the number of committee staff on the floor at one time during the consideration of measures reported from their committees. This permission does not extend to Members' personal staff except when a Member's amendment is actually pending during the five-minute rule. It also does not extend to personal staff of Members who are sponsors of pending bills or who are engaging in special orders. The Chair requests the cooperation of all Members and committee staff to assure that only the proper number of staff are on the floor, and then only during the consideration of measures reported from their committees. The Chair is making this statement and reiterating this policy because of concerns expressed by many Members about the number of committee staff on the floor during the last weeks of the first session. The Chair requests each chairman, and each ranking minority member, to submit to the [Doorkeeper] Sergeant-at-arms a list of staff who are to be allowed on the floor during the consideration of a measure reported by their committee. Each staff person should exchange his or her ID for a "committee staff" badge which is to be worn while on the floor. The Chair has consulted with the Minority Leader and will continue to consult with him. The Chair has furthermore directed the [Doorkeeper and] Sergeant-at-arms to assure proper enforcement of [rule XXXII] rule IV.

Announcement by the Speaker, August 1, 1996

The SPEAKER. The Chair will make a statement. On May 25, 1995, the Chair took the opportunity to reiterate guidelines on the prohibition against former Members exercising floor privileges during the consideration of a matter in which they have a personal or pecuniary interest or are employed or retained as a lobbyist.

[Clause 3 of House rule XXXII] Clause 4 of rule IV and the subsequent guidelines issued by previous Speakers on this matter make it clear that consideration of legislative measures is not limited solely to those pending before the House. Consideration also includes all bills and resolutions either which have been called up by a full committee or subcommittee or on which hearings have been held by a full committee or subcommittee of the House.